

~~SECRET~~

USIB AD HOC COMMITTEE ON EXCHANGES
STATUS REPORT

14 October 1958

*Items to be discussed at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, 21 October 1958, at 2 p.m., East Building, Conference Room

I. EXCHANGE VISITS

A. General

*1. Consideration of Organization and Functions - USIB-D-1./1, 19 September 1958 and attachments state that all policies, directives, orders, and decisions currently in effect as a result of IAC action would continue in effect unless modified or superseded. The action in regard to this, which pertains to our Committee, is:

a. All committees and working groups established by the IAC and/or USCIB shall continue to function under their existing terms of reference unless and until such time as their organization or functions may be changed by U. S. Intelligence Board action.

b. All such committees and working groups, however, shall consider whether any changes in their existing organization or functions may be appropriate, and the Chairman of each group shall report thereon to the U. S. Intelligence Board.

It is appropriate at this time that the Committee review its organization and functions so that the Chairman can report to USIB as directed. In this regard, it has been suggested that a short statement could be adopted by the Committee as its terms of reference in place of the rather loose arrangement presently in existence. Suggestions which might bear on the Chairman's report should be presented at the meeting.

*2. Evaluation of Plastics Exchange - Attached is a copy of an evaluation of the US Plastics delegation's visit to the USSR by ORR. It is strongly suggested that other members make arrangements whereby the appropriate analysts in their agencies make similar reviews of projects in which they have strong interest. This evaluation will be useful as:

a. Guidance to the Department of State in preparing for the visit of the USSR delegation

~~SECRET~~

23 OCT 1958

S-E-C-R-E-T

b. Guidance to the Committee in evaluating the Exchange Program for USIB

3. Fourth Semi-Annual Report - Copies of the "Fourth Semi-Annual Report" will be made available to members at the meeting. It is expected to be on the agenda of the 21 October USIB Meeting.

*4. IDC Paper on Relationship Between Defector and Exchange Programs - The IDC has cleared the subject paper and, as agreed by the Chairman, [REDACTED] copies will be made available at the 21 October meeting for review of the Committee. Only those portions of the paper dealing with the Exchange Program will be reviewed. It is suggested that members may want to discuss the contents with their IDC member.

25X1A9a

B. Exchanges

1. Microwave Relay Exchange - The opinion of the EIC Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Electronics which was forwarded to the Department of State was made available to members as an attachment to the Secretary's memorandum; Subject: Action Matters, 30 September 1958. If there are any comments regarding this opinion which may be used as guidance in the future actions of the EIC Subcommittee, it is appropriate to discuss them at the meeting.

*2. Diamond Bits Exchange - There is attached a request from the State Department member for an intelligence review of a verbal Soviet proposal for an exchange in the field of diamond bits and instruments for precision tooling. This has been referred to the EIC Subcommittee on Industrial Machinery and Equipment. It is expected that an opinion will be ready for Committee action at the meeting. The Department of State desires rapid action, in that the Soviets would like a statement on "agreement in principle" and the Department is attempting to answer without undue delay so that it will be in a strong position to complain about Soviet delays.

*3. Materiel Exchanges - c, d, e, (Aerobee Rocket, IGY Proposal, and Telemetry Equipment respectively) The Chairman of the IGY Working Group said that his group was not the appropriate body to render an opinion on the exchange potentialities of these three items. Each involves technical matters within the competence of different elements of the intelligence community. He said that it would be necessary to have independent technical subcommittees to consider each item and offered to have a member of the IGY Working Group sit in on the deliberations in each of these if necessary.

-2-

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

It is suggested, therefore, that each member either call the Secretary with his nominees for the three subcommittees or bring the names to the 21 October meeting.

25X1A9a

*4. Machine Translation Exchange - [REDACTED] DAD/OCR, will explain a proposal for an exchange designed to gather information on research in the field of machine translation.

*5. Plutonium Exchange Proposal - The very prompt reply from JAEIC to the Committee's request for review of this proposal is attached. It is believed that final action can be taken at the meeting.

*6. Electrically Exploded Wire Phenomenon Conference, April 1959 - Attached is a copy of the request from East-West Contacts Staff, Department of State, for a review of the proposal to invite Soviets to the subject conference. In its 30 June memorandum, the Committee advised EWC that conferences in this field should be reviewed individually. EWC has informed the sponsor that one of his sessions is in a closed area and that it is unlikely that the Soviets will want to make the trip for only a two-day conference. It further noted that post-conference activities of a substantive nature are subject to prior agreement on reciprocity, and that access to closed areas is usually on the basis of reciprocity. The Committee will probably want to dispose of this problem by referring it to a substantive subcommittee.

7. Radio-TV Exchange - In response to the Committee's request, the EIC Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Electronics arranged a coordinated briefing for the US delegation to include suggestions for itinerary and material to be exchanged. This briefing took place on 9 October. Details will be available at the meeting.

*8. International Symposium on Information and Network Theory - In response to the Committee's request, the EIC Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Electronics has stated that this conference is too theoretical to be within the scope of the Subcommittee's capabilities. In the meantime the conference sponsor visited Washington to discuss the situation with the Department of State. For that reason it was necessary to call on the technical specialists in CIA/OSI for immediate advice. It is the opinion of these specialists that the field is so new that the Soviets would have little to gain from attendance at the conference, and that the US might actually gain if the Soviets presented papers. For this reason, it was believed that reciprocity, while desirable, should not be made a condition for Soviet attendance. On the other hand, however, it

S-E-C-R-E-T

was believed that any tour involving technical installations should be subject to strict reciprocity. Since other agencies did not have the opportunity of participating in this decision, they may wish to comment.

9. Medical Exchanges - New Antibiotics - This medical field was of priority interest to the medical intelligence community as of December 1957. Exchanges and other visits taking place since that time have revealed significant amounts of information, and the technical consultant to the Committee previously reported that future activities in this field should be restricted to research to the exclusion of the manufacturing aspects. It was also suggested that any exchange in this field be so scheduled that the possibility of a Microbiology Exchange would not be jeopardized. The exchange is one of those enumerated in Section III, of the US-USSR Agreement on Exchanges. Largely because of exchange activities in the last ten months, the technical consultant after consultation with members of the medical intelligence community informs me that intelligence interest in this exchange is limited, but under the conditions stated above there is no net disadvantage. This view will be communicated to the Department of State if there is no objection.

10. Guided Missiles Exchange - It is expected that the paper cleared by the members following the last meeting will be on the agenda of a USIB Meeting in the near future.

25X1A9a


-4-

S-E-C-R-E-T